Legal But Not Necessarily Available: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

KADİR HAS UNIVERSITY
GENDER AND WOMEN’S STUDIES
RESEARCH CENTER
A Report on Abortion Services at Public Hospitals¹
(Education and Research Hospitals, State Hospitals, County Hospitals And City Hospitals)
In Turkey
2020

Researchers
Prof. Dr. Mary Lou O’Neil
Deniz Altuntaş
Alara Şevval Keskin

Translated by Çağrı Ekiz

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¹ We should note that in Turkey there is a difference between a state hospital and a public hospital. While a state hospital is a specific type of hospital, the term public hospital is used for different types of hospitals like city hospitals or education and research hospitals, including the state hospital.
KEY FINDINGS

Public Hospitals That Do Not Provide Abortion Without Restriction as To Reason

- We contacted a total of 295 public hospitals. Ten (Ankara, Amasya, Bayburt, Burdur, Hakkari, Şanlıurfa, Tekirdağ, Tunceli) provide abortion services to the full extent provided for in the current law, 185 do not.
- The table below shows the reasons provided by public hospitals that do not provide abortion care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor’s choice (i)</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegally or forbidden (ii)</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forbidden at state hospitals (ii)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at state hospitals (ii)</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That’s the rule/procedure (ii)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher-up won’t approve (ii)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>You can’t have it at private either</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Forwarded to other hospital] (iii)</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Hang up]</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s a sin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid-19 related</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No equipment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No anesthesiologist</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR closed</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• (*i) Reasons offered for not providing abortion services included: “it’s the doctor’s decision”, “doctor’s initiative” or “doctor won’t do it”.

• (*ii) These statements are similar to each other in terms of semantics but different in terms of the extent of the denial of abortion services. First of all, “illegal or forbidden” is a statement of general extent and criminalizes abortion even though it is not illegal or forbidden. According to our phone conversations there is no definition of the extent of the “ban” or whether it is a general situation. Eleven hospitals stated that abortion was prohibited in state hospitals, 36 hospital stated it was not possible in state hospitals without using the word “forbidden” or prohibited” and 4 of them stated that this was the rule or the procedure. Four hospitals claimed that abortion without restriction due to a reason was not approved by upper management.

• Our conversations revealed a number of different kinds of obstructions: seven hospitals claimed that married individuals could receive abortion service but this was not the case for non-married/single individuals; three hospitals told us abortion service was available for married individuals but they did not know the procedure regarding singles. There were also obstructions based on certain conditions: five hospitals stated that abortion without restriction as to a reason could only be obtained if the doctor found it necessary; one hospital claimed care was possible for married women but for single one should get a permission from a state prosecutor; one hospital asked for a government issued document to prove that the person is single and another one asked for a copy of the family register to prove that person is not married; and one hospital claimed that partner’s consent is necessary, similar to what is required of married couples.

• (*iii) Sixty-three public hospitals referred our researcher to other hospitals. Seven told us to find another hospital without defining one, ten referred us to another public hospital, five to an education and research hospital, and thirty-three to a private hospital. Eight hospitals told our researchers to apply to a Family Planning Center but did not share information regarding the hospital.

• Among all contacted public hospitals
  o In one instance the person on the phone proposed to connect our researcher to the cash desk to talk to a “female employee” instead of Gynecology Department.
  o In one case an individual stated that abortion is performed secretly even in private hospitals, it’s not done openly.
In one case when the researcher asked why there was no abortion care, the individual replied “Why do we need it? We have no such cases.”

In two instances hospital personal claimed “we don’t have the authority” and “we don’t have the certification”.

Five respondents stated that abortion is “arbitrary”.

- Of the 295 hospitals that were contacted, twice our researcher was asked “are you married”, 5 times “where are you calling from?”, once “how old are you?”, 6 times “how many weeks?”, once “why do you want to have abortion?”, 3 times “are you pregnant?” and finally one person asked “don’t you want to have a baby?”
LEGAL BUT NOT ACCESSIBLE: ABOPTION SERVICES AT PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN TURKEY - 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Abortion is legal in Turkey. In 1983, Law No. 2827 regarding Population Planning lifted the ban on abortion had been in place since the foundation of the Republic. This law legalized abortion, law, abortion without restriction as to reason up to ten weeks gestation. Under the law, a pregnant person must be 18 years of old and if married obtain spousal consent in order to legally obtain an abortion. Pregnant persons under the age of eighteen must have parental permission. After 10 weeks gestation if the pregnancy threatens the individual’s life or if the if fetus has a serious disability.

The Population Planning Law no: 2827
Termination of pregnancy:

Sec. 5 – Provided there are no medical contraindications, the uterus may be evacuated until the end of the 10th week of pregnancy. If the gestation period is longer than 10 weeks, the uterus may be evacuated only if the pregnancy represents, or will constitute, a danger to the mother’s life, or if the child to be born or its offspring will be damaged, this being confirmed in writing, on the basis of objective findings, by a specialist in obstetrics and gynaecology and a specialist in a related field. In a situation where failure to intervene immediately will result in danger either to life or to one of the vital organs, a physician making an assessment to this effect shall evacuate the uterus. However, in such cases, the physician who has terminated the pregnancy must inform the Directorate of Health and Welfare in provincial centres, and Government physicians in local towns, of the name and address of the woman, the intervention procedure, and the justification for the intervention; such information must be provided either prior to the intervention, or, if this is not possible, within 24 hours following the intervention. Regulations to be prepared shall indicate the conditions that constitute emergency situations; the format and content of the notification form; the format for the consent forms to be used by persons requesting evacuation of the uterus or sterilization, and instructions on how to fill in these forms; the places where such operations can be performed; the conditions to be fulfilled by such places as regards health and other aspects; and matters regarding the inspection and supervision of such places.

The law contains no time restriction for this kind of termination. However, in such a case, the doctor must notify the health authorities regarding the patient’s identity, type of procedure and the reason before doing the procedure. In case of emergency the procedure should be done within 24 hours. Turkish Penal Code allows for abortion for pregnancies that result from a crime up to 20 weeks gestation. Abortion care provided in public hospitals is paid by the state health insurance.

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After legalization many women availed themselves of legalized abortion services with 15% of women in Turkey reporting they have had an abortion in their lifetime. However, in recent years there is growing evidence questioning the accessibility of abortion services in the country.

In September 2020 then Constitutional Court delivered a precedent setting decision on abortion. In the case before the Court, a minor who became pregnant as a result of sexual abuse sought legal permission to end her pregnancy but the legal procedure took so long that the twenty week time limit lapsed and the minor was forced to carry the pregnancy to term. The Constitutional Court ruled that the denial of access to abortion services was a violation of the constitutional right to “right to life and the right to protect and improve his/her corporeal and spiritual existence”. The Court also declared that the pregnancy having resulted from a crime and it should be considered under Turkish Penal Law and Law on Population Planning, as part of the legal circumstances that regulate abortion. The data collection process of this research was finished before the Constitutional Court’s decision.

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5 Anayasa Mahkemesi Kararlar Bilgi Bankası. 23.07.2020. [https://kararlarbilgibankasi.anayasa.gov.tr/8B/2017/31619?KelimeAra%5B%5D=k%C3%BCrtağ](https://kararlarbilgibankasi.anayasa.gov.tr/8B/2017/31619?KelimeAra%5B%5D=k%C3%BCrtağ)

According to the By-law Regarding the Control and Execution of Uterine Evacuation and Sterilization Services prepared and issued in 1983 based on Law on Population Planning, the following regulations govern the hospitals that can perform abortion:

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**Ordinance regarding the execution and control of Uterine evacuation and sterilization**

**Section 4** – In pregnancies up to 10 weeks, uterine evacuation can be executed;

a) By gynecology experts where they practice their profession,

b) By physicians in official treatment institutions, through menstrual regulation.

If evacuation requires anesthesia, it can be executed in a public or private hospital.

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Our study entitled “Legal but Not Necessarily Available: Abortion Services at State Hospitals in Turkey-2020” is based on this article and covers a wide range of hospitals like state hospitals, education and research hospitals, gynecology and pediatric hospitals, district educational hospitals, hospitals for lung diseases, county hospitals, oncology hospitals, STD hospitals, physiotherapy and rehabilitation hospitals, mental health hospitals and postgraduate hospitals and city hospitals. We tried to answer systematically in which hospitals it is possible to have an abortion and under which circumstances.

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Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center
**METHODOLOGY**

Employing a mystery patient telephone survey, we phoned 518 public hospitals (14 city hospitals and 504 public hospitals) registered in Directorate of Public Hospitals under the purview of the Ministry of Health. We prepared a list covering 81 provinces using the official Central Physician Appointment System (Merkezi Hekim Randevu Sistemi – MHRS) that provides online appointments services for all health institutions under the Ministry of Health. At the time the list was prepared there were a total of 850 public hospitals in Turkey.

According to the By-law Regarding the Control and Execution of Uterine Evacuation and Sterilization Article 4 all hospitals that have a Gynecology Department were included in our list. MHRS was checked to determine the availability of these departments and the possibility of an appointment. Specialty hospitals that do not have a gynecology department like dental hospitals, hospitals for lung deceases were excluded from the sample.

According to our survey some hospitals forwarded our researcher to education and research hospitals, family planning centers or private hospitals.

A script was prepared and researchers phoned hospitals between July—September 2020.
1. Is abortion service provided in the hospital?
2. Is abortion available without restriction as to a reason?
3. Is abortion possible in case of medical necessity?
4. [If all 3 answers are “No” then we asked “Do you provide abortion under any circumstances?” to confirm.]
5. What is the reason for not providing abortion services?

To guarantee standardization, the same text is used for each hospital. The data is coded in order to analyze the answers based on hospital type, region and accessibility of abortion service. All the answers are coded and are part of the part of the data set which were used for frequency and cross analysis.

Considering the intense workload of hospitals due to Covid-19 pandemic, researchers made repeat calls to hospitals that were unreachable. Researchers attempted to contact each hospital twice on different days and at different times and a hospital was categorized as unreachable if after these attempts no contact was made. Out of 518 public hospitals, 223 remained unreachable by phone. Therefore, the final sample consists of 295 hospitals. Hospitals that proved unreachable by phone must be visited in person which during a pandemic creates another host of problems.

The number of hospitals you can see on the graphics prepared for the research results are calculated using our list based on MHRS excluding specialization hospitals like dental or lung decease hospitals. Gynecology and birth departments are shortened as “Gyno” and the number of hospitals with a gynecology department is determined based on MHRS registry. Data like population and the number of women at the age of fertility are taken from Turkish Statistical Institution Data Portal (TÜİK) and “Address Based Population Registry Results 2019”. Childbearing age is between 15-49.

The results are as follows:

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RESULTS

Hospitals We Could Reach
That Have A Gynecology Department- 2020 (N=295)

- W/O restriction as to reason: 3%
- With conditions: 5%
- With restrictions: 54%
- Only if medical necessity: 14%
- No info given: 5%
- There is no doctor/ dept.: 19%
Comparison of Public Hospitals with That Perform Abortion Without Restriction as To A Reason 2016-2020

The graph above shows a comparison between our abortion researches in 2016 and in 2020. As you can see there are significant increases and decreases in different areas of the abortion services.

Public Hospital With A Gynecology Department That Could Be Reached By Region (N=295)

- Istanbul: 24
- Western Marmara: 14
- Ege: 23
- Eastern Marmara: 14
- Western Anatolia: 14
- Mediterranean: 25
- Central Anatolia: 2
- Western Blacksea: 16
- Eastern Blacksea: 14
- Northeastern Anatolia: 3
- Central Eastern Anatolia: 2
- Southeastern Anatolia: 14

Legend:
- Blue: No doctor/ dept.
- Green: No info given
- Yellow: Only if medical necessity
- Orange: With restrictions
- Purple: With conditions
- Pink: W/O restriction as to reason
HOSPITALS THAT PROVIDE ABORTION WITHOUT RESTRICTION AS TO A REASON
ADANA

Number of Hospitals: ..........14
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ....................9
Population: ..................2,237,940
Number of Women at Child Bearing Age: ...................572,587

ADANA
(N=9)

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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**ADIYAMAN**

- Number of Hospitals: 6
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 4
- Population: 626,465
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 158,590

**ADIYAMAN (N=4)**

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 0
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 3
- No doctor/ dept.: 1
AFYONKARAHISAR

Number of Hospitals: 10
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
Population: 729,483
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 182,124

AFYONKARAHISAR (N=6)

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 1
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 3
- No doctor/dept.: 2
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

AGRI

Number of Hospitals: 9
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 5
Population: 536,199
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 131,203

AGRI (N=5)

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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/ dept.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center

- **Number of Hospitals**: 5
- **Research and Ed. Hospitals**: 1
- **Hospitals with a Gynecology Department**: 2
- **Population**: 416,367
- **Number of Women at Child Bearing Age**: 107,324

**AKSARAY**

(N=2)

<table>
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<th>Reason</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
AMASYA

Number of Hospitals: 6
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 5
Population: 337,800
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 78,434

![Chart showing abortion services availability in Amasya:]

- 1 hospital with no restriction as to reason
- 1 hospital with restrictions
- 0 hospitals allowing only if medical necessity
- 3 hospitals could not be reached

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
### ANKARA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Hospitals:</th>
<th>42</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population:</td>
<td>5,639,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of Women at Child Baring Age:</td>
<td>1,531,284</td>
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#### Bar Graph

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<th>Condition</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No for unmarried persons</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes for unmarried persons</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(N=26)*
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

ANTALYA

Number of Hospitals:..........19
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....2
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.......................15
Population:.................2,511,700
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:...............665,949

ANTALYA (N=15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
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ARDAHAN

(N=2)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Hospitals: 3
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 2
Population: 97,319
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 22,565
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

Number of Hospitals: 7
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
Population: 170,875
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 39,024

ARTVIN
(N=6)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/ dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AYDIN

- Number of Hospitals: 11
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
- Population: 1,110,972
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 267,764

Chart:

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- No info on service for unmarried persons: 1
- With restrictions: 3
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 2

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Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**BALIKESIR**

- Number of Hospitals: 18
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 11
- Population: 1,228,620
- Number of Women at Childbearing Age: 282,955

**Chart:**

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 6
- Only if medical necessity: 4
- Could not be reached: 1
- No information: 1
- No doctor/dept.: 3

(N=11)
BARTIN

(N=1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>0</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Hospitals: 2
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
Population: 198,249
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 48,644
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**BATMAN**

Number of Hospitals: 8
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
Population: 608,659
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 161,407

**BATMAN (N=6)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>No doctor/ dept.</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Yellow: W/O restriction as to reason
- Green: With restrictions
- Orange: Only if medical necessity
- Aqua: No doctor/ dept.
- Blue: Could not be reached
Number of Hospitals: 2
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
Population: 84,843
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 22,466

<table>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(N=1)
BILECIK

Number of Hospitals:.............6
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................2
Population:......................219,427
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:..........................54,026

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of Hospitals: 6
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 4
Population: 279,812
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 75,420

BINGOL
(N=4)

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 1
- Only if medical necessity: 1
- Could not be reached: 3
BITLIS

- Number of Hospitals: 8
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
- Population: 348,115
- Number of Women at Child Bearing Age: 88,250

<table>
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Number of Hospitals: 7
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
Population: 316,126
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 80,854

BOLU
(N=3)

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BURDUR

Number of Hospitals:..............5
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology department:.........................3
Population:.......................270,796
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................63,682

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**BURSA**

- Number of Hospitals: 22
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology department: 15
- Population: 3,056,120
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 794,391

**Graph: BURSA (N=15)**

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 7
- Only if medical necessity: 4
- Could not be reached: 5
- No doctor/ dept.: 3
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

CANAKKALE

Number of Hospitals: 9
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 6
Population: 542,157
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 128,935

CANAKKALE (N=6)

- With partner's consent: 1
- With restrictions: 4
- Only if medical necessity: 1
- No doctor/ dept.: 1
CANKIRI
(N=1)

- Number of Hospitals: 5
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
- Population: 195,789
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 43,758

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Research and Ed. Hospitals:...0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................4
Population:....................530,864
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................124,445

CORUM
(N=4)

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**DENIZLI**

- **Number of Hospitals:** 11
- **Research and Ed. Hospitals:** 0
- **Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:** 7
- **Population:** 1,037,208
- **Number of Women at Child Baring Age:** 264,404

### DENIZLI (N=7)

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DIYARBAKIR

Number of Hospitals: ............14
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: .........................12
Population: .....................1,756,353
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ....................460,853

W/O restriction as to reason

- 0

With restrictions

- 5

Only if medical necessity

- 1

No info given

- 1

Could not be reached

- 6

(DIYARBAKIR (N=12))
DUZCE

Number of Hospitals:...........3
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................2
Population:....................392.166
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................101.854

DUZCE
(N=2)

W/O restriction as to reason
0

With restrictions
0

Only if medical necessity
0

Could not be reached
2

Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center
EDIRNE

Number of Hospitals:.............4
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:......................3
Population:......................413,903
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:......................96,712

EDIRNE
(N=3)

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</table>

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
ELAZIG

Number of Hospitals: ..........7
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: .................4
Population: .......................591.098
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: .................155.386

W/O restriction as to reason: 0
With restrictions: 1
Only if medical necessity: 0
Could not be reached: 3

(N=4)
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**ERZINCAN**

- Number of Hospitals: 4
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
- Population: 234,747
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 58,328

**ERZINCAN (N=1)**

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Number of Hospitals:.............16
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.....................8
Population:..........................762.062
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.....................201.877

ERZURUM (N=8)

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</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
GAZIANTEP (N=7)

- Number of Hospitals: 13
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 7
- Population: 2,069,364
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 528,040

Bar Chart:
- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 2
- Only if medical necessity: 1
- Could not be reached: 4
- No doctor/dept.: 1
GIRESUN

Number of Hospitals: 13
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 7
Population: 448,400
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 101,833

GIRESUN
(N=7)

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GUMUSHANE

Number of Hospitals:..............4
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................3
Population:.......................164,521
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:...........................42,998

GUMUSHANE
(N=3)

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HAKKARI

Number of Hospitals:..............5
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................4
Population:.....................280,991
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................73,941

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HATAY

Number of Hospitals:.........14
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0

Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................10

Population:................1.628.894

Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.....................408.844

HATAY (N=10)

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Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center
IGDIR

(N=1)

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ISPARTA

- Number of Hospitals: 6
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 4
- Population: 444,914
- Number of Women at Child Bearing Age: 112,678

Bar chart:
- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 2
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 1
- No doctor/dept.: 1

(N=4)
ISTANBUL

Number of Hospitals: ....................77
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ........24

Hospitals with a Gynecology
Department: ..............................44

Population: ............................15,519,267

Number of Women at Child
Baring Age: ..............................4,364,336

ISTANBUL
(N=44)

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Number of Hospitals: 34
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 6
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 23
Population: 4,367,251
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 1,121,406

IZMIR
(N=23)

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KAHRAMANMARAS

Number of Hospitals: ............ 10
Research and Ed. Hospitals: .... 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: .................... 7
Population: ................... 1,154,102
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ............... 290,152

KAHRAMANMARAS
(N=7)

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KADIR HAS UNIVERSITY GENDER AND WOMEN’S STUDIES RESEARCH CENTER

KARABUK

Number of Hospitals:..............4
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................2
Population:.....................248.458
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................63.306

KARABUK
(N=2)

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Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

KARAMAN

- Number of Hospitals: 4
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 2
- Population: 253,279
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 64,336

KARAMAN (N=2)

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Total Population: 64,336
Number of Hospitals:..............7
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:........................3
Population:.....................285,410
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:......................71,755

KARS
(N=3)

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KASTAMONU

Number of Hospitals:...........12
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:..........................5
Population:.....................379,405
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.....................85,194

KASTAMONU (N=5)

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</table>

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
**Legal but Not Accessible:** Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

- **KILIS**

  - Number of Hospitals: 2
  - Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
  - Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
  - Population: 142,490
  - Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 35,184

<table>
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(N=1)
Number of Hospitals: ............... 2
Research and Ed. Hospitals: .... 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ...................... 1
Population: .................. 283,017
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: .................... 70,530

KIRIKKALE
(N=1)

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</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

Number of Hospitals: 7
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
Population: 361,836
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 85,505

KIRKLARELI
(N=3)

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</table>

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
KIRSEHIR

(Number = 2)

- Number of Hospitals: 3
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 2
- Population: 242,938
- Number of Women at Childbearing Age: 60,229

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KOCAELI

Number of Hospitals:............15
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....2
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................10

Population:.....................1.953.035

Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.......................525.703

KOCAELI
(N=10)

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<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/ dept.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
KUTAHYA

- Number of Hospitals: 8
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 5
- Population: 579,257
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 147,496

Bar chart showing:
- 0 hospitals without restriction as to reason
- 1 hospital with restrictions
- 1 hospital only if medical necessity
- 4 hospitals could not be reached

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
Number of Hospitals:..............9  
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....1  
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:..................6  
Population:......................800.165  
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:..................206.510

MALATYA
(N=6)

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 0
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 5
- No doctor/ dept.: 1
MANISA

Number of Hospitals:.........18
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................13
Population:.................1.440.611
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................351.935

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No info given</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 MANISA
(N=13)
MARDIN

(N=5)

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Hospitals</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and Ed. Hospitals</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals with a Gynecology Department</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>838,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Women at Child Bearing Age</td>
<td>217,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- W/O restriction as to reason (no for unmarried persons): 1
- With restrictions: 0
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 4
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

MERSIN

Number of Hospitals: 12
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 8
Population: 1,840,425
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 466,447

MERSIN (N=8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason (no singles)</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
<th>No doctor/ dept.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MUGLA

(N=11)

- Number of Hospitals: 13
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 11
- Population: 983,142
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 239,405

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Without restriction to reason</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**Number of Hospitals**: 7

**Research and Ed. Hospitals**: 0

**Hospitals with a Gynecology Department**: 4

**Population**: 408,809

**Number of Women at Child Baring Age**: 102,612

---

**MUS (N=4)**

- **W/O restriction as to reason**: 0
- **With restrictions**: 1
- **Only if medical necessity**: 1
- **Could not be reached**: 2
- **No doctor/ dept.**: 1
NEVSEHIR

(N=1)

- Number of Hospitals: 3
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
- Population: 303,010
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 76,500

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 1
- Only if medical necessity: 1
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**NIGDE**

- Number of Hospitals: 6
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
- Population: 362,861
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 91,408

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NIGDE (N=3)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Population: ϯϲϮ.ϴϲϭ
Number of Hospitals: 6
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
Population: 362,861
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 91,408
**ORDU**

- **Number of Hospitals:** 13
- **Research and Ed. Hospitals:** 1
- **Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:** 7
- **Population:** 754,198
- **Number of Women at Child Baring Age:** 176,392

---

**ORDU (N=7)**

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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No info given</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kadir Has University Gender and Women’s Studies Research Center
OSMANIYE

Number of Hospitals: 6
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
Population: 538,759
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 133,018

OSMANIYE
(N=3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RIZE

(N=3)

- Number of Hospitals: 7
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 3
- Population: 343,212
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 83,416

Bar chart:

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- With restrictions: 2
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- No info given: 1
SAKARYA

Number of Hospitals:............13
Research and Ed. Hospitals:.....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:...............................8
Population:......................1,029,650
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:......................267,148

SAKARYA
(N=8)

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 0 0 5 3

W/O restriction as to reason
With restrictions
Only if medical necessity
Could not be reached
No doctor/dept.

Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020
Number of Hospitals: ..........20
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: .........................12
Population: ..................1.348.542
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ......................338.044

SAMSUN
(N=12)

W/O restriction as to reason
With restrictions
Only if medical necessity
Could not be reached
No doctor/dept.

2 3 0 3 4
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

SIIRT

(N=4)

Number of Hospitals: 6
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 4
Population: 330,280
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 83,680

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>SIIRT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of Hospitals:..............8
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:...........................5
Population:.........................218,243
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................47,189

SINOP (N=5)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
<th>No info given</th>
<th>No doctor/dept.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>
SIVAS

(N=5)

Number of Hospitals: 10
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 5
Population: 638,956
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 159,619

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Reason for Abortion</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SANLIURFA

Number of Hospitals: ..........16
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....2

Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ......................12

Population: ......................2,073,614

Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ......................501,442

---

SANLIURFA
(N=12)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**SIRNAK**

Number of Hospitals: .......... 8
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: .... 0
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ...................... 6

Population: ..................... 529,615

Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ..................... 131,594

---

**SIRNAK (N=6)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of Hospitals:............12
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................8
Population:...................1.055.412
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................270.380

TEKIRDAG
(N=8)

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
<th>No doctor/dept.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**TOKAT**

**Number of Hospitals:** 9
**Research and Ed. Hospitals:** 0
**Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:** 5
**Population:** 612,747
**Number of Women at Child Baring Age:** 147,524

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>No doctor/dept.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(N=5)*
TRABZON

Number of Hospitals: ..........13
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....2
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: .........................6
Population: ......................808,974
Number of Women at Child Bearing Age: ......................199,724

TRABZON
(N=6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction for married women (unmarried persons need permission from prosecutor)</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
<th>No info given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

**TUNCELI**

- Number of Hospitals: 2
- Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
- Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 1
- Population: 84,660
- Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 18,803

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>With restrictions</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of Hospitals: ...............5
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ......................... 3
Population: ..................370.509
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ......................... 94.153

USAK
(N=3)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>W/O restriction as to reason</th>
<th>with restriction</th>
<th>Only if medical necessity</th>
<th>Could not be reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

VAN

Number of Hospitals: 11
Research and Ed. Hospitals: 1
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: 9
Population: 1,136,757
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: 297,546

VAN (N=9)

- W/O restriction as to reason: 0
- Doctor's decision: 1
- W/O restriction for married women: 1
- With restrictions: 1
- Only if medical necessity: 0
- Could not be reached: 4
- No doctor/dept.: 2

Population: 297,546
W/O restriction as to reason

With restrictions

Only if medical necessity

No info given

Number of Hospitals: ..........4
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ....................1
Population: ....................270.976
Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ...............66.665

YALOVA
(N=1)
Legal but Not Accessible: Abortion Services at Public Hospitals in Turkey - 2020

YOZGAT

Number of Hospitals:.............11
Research and Ed. Hospitals:....0
Hospitals with a Gynecology Department:.........................6
Population:......................421.200
Number of Women at Child Baring Age:.........................101.150

YOZGAT (N=6)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
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<td>W/O restriction for married women</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Could not be reached</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Number of Hospitals: ..........10
Research and Ed. Hospitals: ....0

Hospitals with a Gynecology Department: ......................... 5

Population: .................. 596,053

Number of Women at Child Baring Age: ...................... 145,614

ZONGULDAK
(N=5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason for Restrictions</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>W/O restriction as to reason</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>With restrictions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only if medical necessity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No doctor/dept.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No info given</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>